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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 251//

TO BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY

UNCLAS VIA BLACK PATCH WH41413

TOHAK 251

DELIVER TO JERRY BREMER FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
HUMPHREY - MIDEAST

NEW YORK (AP) -- SEN. HUBERT HUMPHREY, D-MINN., SAID TONIGHT THAT HE WOULD NOT SUPPORT PRESIDENT NIXON'S REQUEST FOR \$250 MILLION IN AID TO EGYPT WITHOUT ASSURANCES THAT ALL NATIONS WILL HAVE THE RIGHT OF PASSAGE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL WHEN IT IS REOPENED.

"IT IS A TRAVESTY AND A GROSS INJUSTICE IF THE SUEZ CANAL IS OPENED TO SOVIET SHIPS AND CLOSED TO OUR FRIEND, ISRAEL," HUMPHREY SAID IN REMARKS PREPARED FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND.

SINCE SOVIET SHIPS WOULD HAVE ACCESS AND THUS SHORTEN "THE TIME, DISTANCE AND COST INVOLVED IN MAINTAINING A MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE PERSIAN GULF AND THE INDIAN OCEAN," HUMPHREY SAID, "IT MAKES ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE FOR AMERICAN TAX DOLLARS TO BE SPENT FOR THE CLEARING AND OPENING OF THE SUEZ CANAL."
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